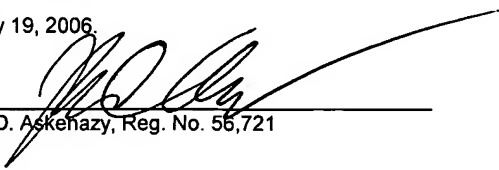


**PATENT APPLICATION  
MARK AS EXPEDITED**

I hereby certify that the correspondence is being deposited  
with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage  
as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on May 19, 2006.

  
Philip D. Askenazy, Reg. No. 56,721

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/820,911  
Applicant : Michael E. Littau et al.  
Filed : April 8, 2004  
Title : Determination of Center of Focus by Parameter Variability Analysis  
  
TC/A.U. : 2877  
Examiner : Gordon J. Stock, Jr.  
Confirm. No. : 8761  
Docket No. : 31162-11-US

**RESPONSE TO FINAL REJECTION  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(a)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**RESPONSE UNDER  
37 C.F.R. § 1.116(a)  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**  
*Examining Group 2877*

Attention: **Mail Stop AF**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated December 22, 2005, and the Advisory Action dated May 11, 2006 please reconsider the above-identified application.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.